

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM USLO PEKING

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INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 383

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH US

SUBJECT: PEKING'S OBSERVANCE OF TAIWAN UPRISING AND SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE ANNIVERSARIES

REF: HONG KONG 2347

1. AS REFTEL NOTES, THE CHINESE, BY THE DEVICE OF NCNA
REPORT ON FEBRUARY 27 RALLY IN NEW YORK HAVE LET AMERICANS
SPEAK FOR THEM IN CHARGING THAT IN THE FIVE YEARS SINCE
THE SIGNING OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE "THE U.S. GOVERN-
MENT HAS NOT UP TO NOW TAKEN DUE ACTIONS ON THE QUESTION
OF TAIWAN." THE CHINESE HAD DELIVERED A SIMILAR
MESSAGE LAST YEAR (ALSO INDIRECTLY, LESS EXPLICITLY
BUT FAR MORE SPECTACULARLY) THROUGH THE FEBRUARY 1976
VISIT BY FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON.

2. HOWEVER IN THE NEW YORK RALLY IT WAS A CHINESE
WITH RATHER GOOD CREDENTIALS TO SPEAK FOR PEKING,
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PAUL T. K. LIN OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY IN CANADA, WHO
"REFUTED THE ABSURD PROPOSITION THAT THE CHINESE
GOVERNMENT SHOULD COMMIT ITSELF TO THE NON-USE OF
ARMED FORCE IN THE LIBERATION OF TAIWAN" AND
DECLARED THAT "THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SHOULD SERIOUSLY
FULFILL THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE BY REALIZING NORMALI-
ZATION OF U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS."

3. MARCH 1 MORNING NEWSCASTS IN PEKING CARRIED FULL TEXT OF THIS NCNA ITEM, THUS GIVING IT CONSIDERABLY GREATER PROMINENCE THAN ITS PUBLICATION IN THE FOREIGN NEWS SECTION OF SAME DATE'S PEOPLE'S DAILY. THIS DISPLAY OF DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PROGRESS OF SINO-US RELATIONS HAS HOWEVER BEEN MORE THAN BALANCED IN LOCAL MEDIA BY THE BIG PLAY GIVEN HUA'S FEBRUARY 27 "CORDIAL" MEETING WITH CHINESE-AMERICAN PHYSICIST LI CHENG-TAO.

4. WE AGREE WITH HONG KONG THAT (AS A PRACTICAL MATTER) THE PRC'S OBSERVANCE OF THE TWO ANNIVERSARIES DID NOT BRING INCREASED PRESSURE ON THE U.S. TO SPEED UP THE NORMALIZATION PROCESS. BUT WE NOTE SOME STRESS THIS TIME--PRESUMABLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON--ON THE LIBERATION OF TAIWAN AS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR THAT "BROOKS NO FOREIGN INTERFERENCE." WE NOTE ALSO THAT LIAO CHENG-CHIH, THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE LEADERSHIP MEETING IN PEKING, DID NOT REPEAT HIS STATEMENT ON THE SAME OCCASION LAST YEAR THAT "WE PIN OUR HOPES ON THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN." HIS EMPHASIS THIS YEAR WAS SLIGHTLY MORE ON LIBERATION AS A TASK ALL CHINESE INCLUDING THE PEOPLE ON TAIWAN MUST ACCOMPLISH. WHILE THERE IS NO REFERENCE TO THE USE OF FORCE, THIS OPTION IS SUGGESTED IN IDENTIFICATION OF YEH CHIEN-YING, THE SENIOR OFFICIAL AT THE

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LEADERSHIP MEETING, BY HIS MILITARY COMMISSION AS WELL AS OTHER TITLES.
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